

Application No. 09/835,205
Response to Office Action

Customer No. 01933

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 4 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by USP 6,480,456 ("Kawamura et al").

It is respectfully pointed out that Kawamura et al has a filing date of November 2, 2000, which is after the claimed priority date of the present application, April 13, 2000.

Submitted herewith is an accurate English translation of the Japanese priority application JP 111988/2000 filed April 13, 2000, to show that claims 1 and 4 are fully supported by the disclosure of JP 111988/2000. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 4 are entitled to the priority date of April 13, 2000.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Kawamura et al is not a proper reference against the claimed present invention, and it is respectfully requested that the rejection in view of Kawamura et al be withdrawn.

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In view of the foregoing, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

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If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

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